

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Applicant acknowledges, with thanks, the receipt of the office action dated July 17, 2007, and completion of the telephonic interview of October 11, 2007. The Examiner's suggestions and observations are much appreciated and summarized herein. Claims 1, 3-7, and 9-11 are currently pending.

Claims 1-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,099,027 to Barry et al. In view of the amendments and arguments set forth below, it is submitted that all pending claims are patentably distinct over the art of record.

The subject application is directed to a system and method for printing electronic files. An electronic file representative of a document is received and a user is prompted for print setting information corresponding to the electronic file, the print setting information including at least one of a desired property including stapling, hole punching, output destination, number of copies, orientation, collating, and finishing. In a typical document rendering, such settings are subject to a default setting in a driver, which default setting may be altered in connection with a particular print job. A subsequent re-printing of that job will result in reinstitution of default settings that may be different than those customized settings used previously. Alternatively, a default setting may be altered, resulting in different settings for subsequent print jobs that are unrelated. The print setting information data is generated, and stored in an associated storage. The print setting information data is associated with the electronic file, the electronic file is converted to an image file, and a print job is created in accordance with the image file and the print setting information data. A user selects a print job for output to at least one selected destination, the at least one selected destination including at least one of a printed copy of the document, an electronic mail inclusive of the image file, and an electronic copy of the image file. At least a first copy of the image file is output in accordance with received output request data. A second output request is received from the user to output at least a second output of the electronic file. Print setting information is retrieved from the storage in accordance with such request, and at least a second copy of the electronic file is output.

In contrast, Barry is directed to a distributed printing system that associates print parameters with a distributed print job to facilitate output thereof. Barry fails to teach any means

by which subsequent printings of a document will be completed with parameters that were specified in connection with a prior rendering.

Amendment to each of independent claims 1 and 7 has been made to render more clearly the patentable distinctions over the art of record. More particularly, each claim now clarifies that print setting information is stored with an electronic document file. Responsive to a request to output another copy of the document, these settings are retrieved and used in connection with the subsequent rendering. For the reasons noted above and as discussed during the interview, it is submitted that with these amendments, all remaining claims are in condition for allowance over the art of record. An early allowance of all claims is respectfully requested.

If there are any fees necessitated by the foregoing communication, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0902, referencing our Docket No. 66329/00008.

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Respectfully submitted,



Susan L. Mizer
Registration No. 38,245
TUCKER ELLIS & WEST LLP
1150 Huntington Bldg.
925 Euclid Ave.
Cleveland, Ohio 44115-1414
Customer No.: 23380
Tel.: (216) 696-3466
Fax: (216) 592-5009